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JUL 06 2006****REMARKS**Status of Claims

Claims 1 to 11 have been rejected under 35USC103(a) over US2001/0024434 (Ayyagari), hereinafter referred to as Ayyagari.

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been limited so as to clearly distinguish over the cited art. Amended Claim 1 is distinguished over Ayyagari at least by "wherein the network is a wireless local area network" and "the controller being operative to allocate a data transmission rate for traffic by radio from user nodes via the relay node to user nodes which is twice that for traffic via the relay node into or out of the network" (emphasis added).

The Examiner has cited paragraph 29 of Ayyagari. That passage teaches that "wireless links have lower wireless bandwidth and higher error rates compared to a wired link" (Ayyagari, paragraph [0029], lines 3 to 5).

This appears opposite to the present invention according to amended claim 1, as that claim requires "a data transmission rate for traffic by radio... which is twice that for traffic... into or out of the network". It follows that it is not obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art, having view of Ayyagari, to arrive at the present invention.

Accordingly, amended claim 1 is patentably distinguished to the standard of 35USC102 and 103.

Independent Claims 7 and 9

Independent claims 7 and 9 have been amended in line with claim 1 and each is distinguished over the cited art essentially on the same basis.

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Dependent Claims

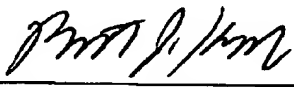
Claim 6 has been canceled.

The dependent claims are each patentable not least on the basis that they each depend on an allowable independent claim.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, allowance of all of the claims presently in the application is respectfully requested, as is passage to issuance of the application. If the Examiner should feel that the application is not yet in a condition for allowance and that a telephone interview would be useful, he is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at 732 949-9742.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 7/6/06